

A NEW SPECIES OF THE LEAFMINING SAWFLY GENUS *METALLUS* (HYMENOPTERA: TENTHREDINIDAE) FROM EASTERN NORTH AMERICA¹

David R. Smith²

ABSTRACT: *Metallus ochreus*, new species, is described from Virginia and Maryland. It has been found only in late September and early October. Color, antennal, sheath, and ovipositor characters separate it from the other three North American species of *Metallus*.

A fourth species of *Metallus* Forbes is here added to the North American fauna. It is the first new member of the Fenusini for this continent that has come to my attention since my revision (Smith, 1971). The host is not known, but two of the other North American species and most Palearctic species are leafminers of *Rubus* spp., with one Palearctic species, *M. gei* (Brischke), a leafminer of *Geum* spp. (Benson, 1952). Three specimens of the species described here were collected in Malaise traps in two localities in Virginia in late September and early October. The traps were in operation from March to October for seven years at the Fairfax County site and for three years at the Louisa Co. site. Such a late flight period is very unusual for sawflies, most of which are spring fliers. The flight time and its small size are probably reasons it has escaped discovery. *Rubus* spp. were present near each collection site, and specimens of *Metallus rohweri* MacGillivray were also collected at each site in August to mid-September, but none as late as the new species.

Metallus ochreus Smith, new species

Female. — Length, 3.5-4.0 mm. Antennal scape and pedicel white, flagellum black. Head black, labrum and palpi white. Thorax black with posterior margin of pronotum and tegula orange to white and mesonotum and metanotum orange. Abdomen orange with apical segment lightly infuscated; sheath orange. Legs orange to white. Wings hyaline to very lightly uniformly infuscated; veins and stigma black.

Antennal length about 1.8X head width; 1st segment slightly longer than broad, 2nd segment about as long as broad, 3rd segment subequal to very slightly shorter than 4th segment, segments 3-9 gradually decreasing in length; segments rounded; segments 3-5 nearly 3X longer than broad. Clypeus truncate; malar space linear; lower interocular distance to eye

¹Received March 9, 1988. Accepted March 26, 1988.

²Systematic Entomology Laboratory, PSI, Agricultural Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, c/o National Museum of Natural History, NHB 168, Washington, D.C. 20560.

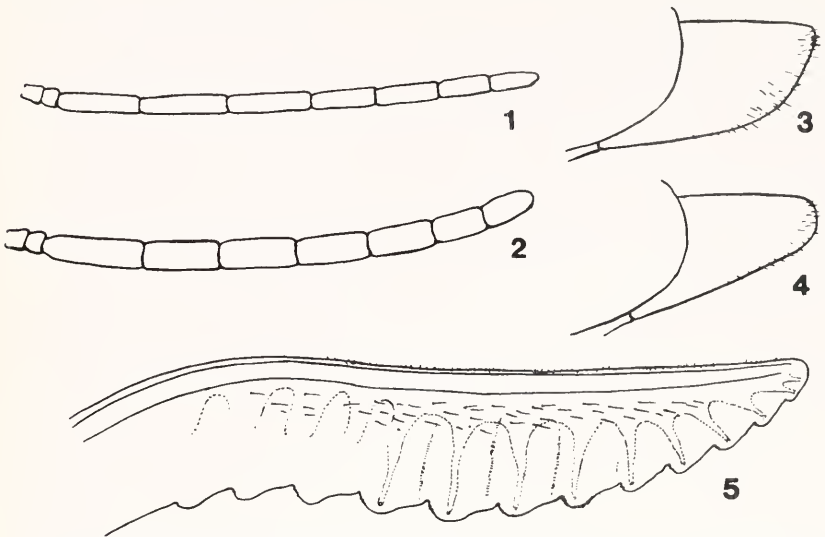


Fig. 1. Female antenna of *M. ochreus*. Fig. 2. Female antenna of *M. rohweri*. Fig. 3. Sheath of *M. ochreus*. Fig. 4. Sheath of *M. capitalis*. Fig. 5. Lancet of *M. ochreus*.

length as 1.5:1.4. Distances between eye and lateral ocellus, between hindocelli, and between hindocellus to posterior margin of head as 1.3:1.0:0.8. Head and body shining impunctate. Tarsal claw with single outer tooth and large, acute basal lobe. Forewing with vein 2A+3A straight. Hindwing with radial cell closed. Sheath bladelike, in lateral view straight above, rounded below and at apex (Fig. 3). Lancet with about 12 serrulae; serrulae broadly rounded, each with 2-4 fine, anterior subbasal teeth (Fig. 5).

Male. — Unknown.

Holotype. — Virginia, Fairfax Co., near Annandale, X-5-86, Malaise trap, David R. Smith.

Paratypes. — MARYLAND: Beltsville, 3-X-1966, L.H.M. Blommers (1 ♀). VIRGINIA: Same data as for holotype except date, IX-26-87 (1 ♀); Louisa Co., 4 mi. S. Cuckoo, 25-IX-20-X-87, Malaise trap, J. Kloke & D.R. Smith (1 ♀). Holotype and paratypes of Virginia specimens in the National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C.; paratype from Maryland in Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands.

DISCUSSION

The white scape, pedicel, labrum, and palpi and orange mesonotum and abdomen are the most obvious diagnostic characters for *M. ochreus*. All other species of *Metallus*, worldwide, are black with at most some brownish areas on the thorax and/or abdomen. The lancet of *M. ochreus* is similar to *M. rohweri* (Smith, 1971: Fig. 89), but *M. ochreus* has more slender antennae (compare Figs. 1, 2). The antennae of *M. rohweri* females are about 1.5X the head width and segments 4 and 5 are no more than 2X longer than broad. The antennae of *M. ochreus* are similar to those of *M.*

capitalis (Norton), but the sheath of *M. capitalis* is more slender (compare Figs. 3, 4) and the lancet of *M. capitalis* has more narrowly rounded serrulae each with a subbasal tooth on each side near the base (Smith, 1971: Fig. 88). The lancet of *M. bensoni* Smith has long, slender, pointed serrulae (Smith, 1971: Fig. 87).

The specific name refers to the extensive pale orange coloration of this species.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I appreciate the help of P.L.L. Thomas, Leiden, The Netherlands, who loaned the Maryland specimen and reviewed the manuscript, and H. Goulet, Biosystematics Research Centre, Agriculture Canada, Ottawa, and E.E. Grissell and D.A. Nickle, Systematic Entomology Laboratory, U.S.D.A., Washington, D.C., for reviewing the manuscript.

LITERATURE CITED

- Benson, R.B. 1952. Symphyta, pp. 51-137. *In* Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects. Hymenoptera. 2, Symphyta. Section (b). Roy. Ent. Soc. London.
- Smith, D.R. 1971. Nearctic sawflies III: Heterarthrinae: Adults and larvae (Hymenoptera: Tenthredinidae). U.S. Dept. Agric. Tech. Bull. 1420, 84 pp., 18 pls.